

AMMANNIA COCCINEA SCARLET AMMANNIA

Scarlet Ammannia is an annual with simple or branched stems that are 5-40 cm high. The glabrous leaves are strapshaped, 2-4 cm long, and opposite. 1-5 inconspicuous flowers occur at the base of the leaves. Each flower is only 2 3 mm long with a globose ovary tightly surrounded by a shallow 4-5-lobed calyx and inconspicuous purplish petals, that are sometimes absent. The 4 stamens project slightly above the mouth of the flower. The fruit is a nearly round capsule. Flowering and fruiting after water recedes; usually August.

The sessile leaves distinguish this from related species like ROTALA RAMOSIOR. The small flower and capsule length, less than 5 mm, distinguish it from other wetland species.